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TEXAS
Labor Market Reviews

TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION APRIL 1984 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78778

UNEMPLOYMENT RISES

Although total employment rose by over 100,000 between February and March 1984 in the actual series, to 7,280,900 at mid-March, the increase was not enough to offset a corresponding rise in unemployment over the month. The continued expansion of employment reflected the relative economic health of the State, despite the increase in joblessness. An additional 59,200 Texans were unemployed in March, pushing the total to 509,300, or 6.5 percent. The surge in unemployment occurred as a large number of persons who had previously dropped out of the labor force were encouraged by recent economic improvements to seek work again.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
(In Thousands)

	Mar. 1984	Feb. 1984	Mar. 1983
United States (Actual)			
Labor Force	111,828.0	111,368.0	109,873.0
Unemployment	9,057.0	9,407.0	11,879.0
Percent Unemployed	8.1	8.4	10.8
Total Employment	102,771.0	101,961.0	97,994.0
United States (Seasonally Adjusted)			
Labor Force	112,912.0	112,693.0	110,735.0
Unemployment	8,772.0	8,801.0	11,419.0
Percent Unemployed	7.8	7.8	10.3
Total Employment	104,140.0	103,892.0	99,316.0
State of Texas (Actual)			
Labor Force	7,790.2	7,625.3	7,536.7
Unemployment	509.3	450.1	655.6
Percent Unemployed	6.5	5.9	8.7
Total Employment	7,280.9	7,175.2	6,881.1
State of Texas (Seasonally Adjusted)			
Labor Force	7,817.0	7,632.0	7,567.0
Unemployment	510.0	433.0	659.0
Percent Unemployed	6.5	5.7	8.7
Total Employment	7,307.0	7,199.0	6,908.0

The State's unemployment rate was also 6.5 percent in the seasonally adjusted series. The U. S. had an actual unemployment rate in March of 8.1 percent, down from 8.4 percent in February. The seasonally adjusted series for the Nation showed a March rate of 7.8 percent, unchanged from February.

SALARIED NONFARM JOBS INCREASE

The number of nonagricultural wage and salary jobs in Texas rose by 24,400 between February and March, to total 6,287,000 at mid-March. The increase was dispersed among most of the major industry groups, but some categories recorded stronger growth than others. Seasonal influences boosted employment in wholesale and retail trade by 8,800, with the majority of the additions concentrated in the retail portion. The approach of Spring brought expansion in building materials and garden supplies and in auto and home supply stores. Jobs in eating and drinking places also picked up with the better weather. Increased business stimulated employment in several sectors of wholesale trade.

Some 6,300 additional jobs were created in services over the month. Hiring accelerated among temporary help agencies and data processing firms, pushing employment up substantially in business services. Hotels and other lodging places began staffing for the coming season, with 2,000 more hires in March. Health services recorded sizeable growth, as hospitals and other health practitioners added workers.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT 1/
TEXAS STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

	Mar.'84*	Feb.'84**	Mar.'83*	Mar.'84*	Feb.'84**	Mar.'83**	Mar.'84*	Feb.'84**	Mar.'83**
	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN		
TOTAL	57,700	57,600	58,200	78,900	78,100	77,000	296,400	294,700	283,100
Manufacturing	5,900	5,900	7,200	9,700	9,200	9,500	34,400	34,500	32,800
Mining	4,200	4,200	4,500	1,900	1,900	2,000	800	800	800
Construction	3,000	3,000	2,700	3,900	3,700	3,900	19,100	18,600	16,600
Trans., Comm., & Util.	3,200	3,200	3,200	6,600	6,600	6,400	8,000	8,100	8,100
Trade	15,100	15,000	14,700	23,600	23,700	22,700	66,800	66,300	63,200
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	3,100	3,200	3,100	4,400	4,300	4,100	18,700	18,600	18,200
Services & Misc.	13,600	13,500	13,300	14,700	14,500	14,900	58,800	58,800	56,700
Government	9,600	9,600	9,500	14,100	14,200	13,500	89,800	89,000	86,700
	BEAUMONT-PT. A.-ORANGE			BROWNS.-HARL.-SAN BENITO			BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION		
TOTAL	140,400	140,000	142,700	63,400	63,000	62,200	46,300	46,400	45,100
Manufacturing	31,900	31,600	32,800	10,900	11,000	11,000	3,100	3,100	3,000
Mining	2,600	2,700	2,700	100	100	100	1,100	1,100	1,100
Construction	9,400	9,200	10,400	3,300	3,300	3,500	3,100	3,200	3,000
Trans., Comm., & Util.	11,300	11,600	11,700	3,100	3,000	3,200	1,700	1,800	1,600
Trade	32,800	32,800	32,800	17,100	17,000	17,000	10,000	10,000	9,700
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	5,600	5,600	5,600	3,100	3,100	3,000	1,900	1,900	1,800
Services & Misc.	26,500	26,200	26,200	11,600	11,200	10,700	6,600	6,500	6,400
Government	20,300	20,300	20,500	14,200	14,300	13,700	18,800	18,800	18,500
	CORPUS CHRISTI			DALLAS-FORT WORTH 2/			EL PASO		
TOTAL	128,000	127,400	131,600	1,630.9	1,615.3	1,551.1	165,600	164,700	163,100
Manufacturing	14,400	14,000	13,700	316.5	313.7	304.0	36,800	36,300	34,200
Mining	7,300	7,300	7,700	28.3	28.3	29.7	--	--	--
Construction	9,700	9,800	13,700	99.7	98.1	90.6	9,100	8,900	8,300
Trans., Comm., & Util.	7,400	7,500	7,800	99.6	98.0	95.3	9,600	9,600	9,900
Trade	32,200	32,000	31,800	434.9	431.8	414.6	39,500	39,600	40,000
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	6,600	6,400	6,300	133.1	132.1	123.8	8,000	7,900	7,800
Services & Misc.	23,700	23,600	23,900	327.4	322.5	306.6	27,900	27,600	28,400
Government	26,700	26,800	26,700	191.4	190.8	186.5	34,700	34,800	34,500
	GALVESTON-TEXAS CITY			HOUSTON 2/			KILLEEN-TEMPLE		
TOTAL	68,500	68,500	67,700	1,512.9	1,505.3	1,505.6	61,800	61,500	58,800
Manufacturing	10,100	10,300	10,600	196.8	195.0	204.4	8,600	8,600	7,700
Mining	800	800	700	99.8	99.1	99.6	--	--	--
Construction	3,900	4,000	3,900	131.0	129.5	137.2	3,900	3,700	3,100
Trans., Comm., & Util.	6,100	6,100	6,000	104.3	103.8	104.6	3,000	2,900	3,000
Trade	12,300	12,200	12,600	367.6	366.4	366.2	14,700	14,500	13,800
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	4,500	4,500	4,500	105.9	105.1	103.5	2,400	2,400	2,300
Services & Misc.	10,500	10,300	10,600	323.5	321.7	308.4	11,100	11,300	10,900
Government	20,300	20,300	18,800	184.0	184.7	181.7	18,100	18,100	18,000

2/ In Thousands

Manufacturing had its best month since September 1983, with 6,800 new jobs created between February and March 1984. Over 90 percent of the increase was generated by the durable goods sector, and a good portion of the gain occurred in one industry. Oil field machinery was the primary source of the 2,700 additional jobs in nonelectrical machinery. Increased demand for drilling equipment in the past few months has pushed employment up in this category.

Business improved throughout electric and electronic equipment, but growth was strongest in the manufacture of computer components. Recalls and additions were common enough in transportation equipment to overcome a sizeable layoff in ship and boat building and repair. Moderate increases were noted in fabricated metal products and in primary metal industries due to rising demand for industrial materials. The upswing in building generated small advances in lumber and wood products and in stone, clay and glass products.

Among nondurable goods industries, the only oustanding improvement was in apparel and other finished textile products, as demand for spring fashions quickened. Other nondurable goods categories remained relatively stable, with the exception of food and kindred products, where seasonal layoffs in preserved fruits and vegetables were accentuated by a fire in a large factory, dropping employment by 1,100.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT 1/
TEXAS STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Industry	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**	Mar. '84*	Feb. '84**	Mar. '83**
	LAREDO			LONGVIEW-MARSHALL			LUBBOCK		
TOTAL	30,300	30,000	30,100	66,500	67,000	67,100	90,800	90,800	91,600
Manufacturing	1,800	1,800	1,900	14,600	14,600	15,000	9,400	9,500	12,700
Mining	1,100	1,100	1,300	4,700	4,800	4,900	500	500	400
Construction	1,300	1,300	1,300	4,500	4,700	4,900	4,100	4,000	3,900
Trans., Comm., & Util.	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,600	3,700	3,700	4,700	4,900	4,600
Trade	9,100	8,900	9,100	17,100	17,100	16,900	26,300	26,400	25,500
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,400	1,400	1,500	2,800	2,800	2,800	5,400	5,400	5,200
Services & Misc.	5,000	4,900	4,800	11,000	10,900	10,800	19,300	19,100	18,500
Government	7,400	7,400	7,000	8,200	8,400	8,100	21,100	21,000	20,800
	MCALLEN-PHARR-EDINBURG			MIDLAND			ODESSA		
TOTAL	78,400	78,100	79,900	55,400	55,500	50,300	56,800	57,200	54,800
Manufacturing	10,000	10,000	10,100	4,000	4,000	3,600	5,800	5,900	6,500
Mining	1,300	1,400	1,400	12,400	12,500	12,500	8,800	9,000	8,700
Construction	5,200	5,100	5,100	3,400	3,500	3,700	4,000	4,300	4,200
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,700	2,700	2,600	2,900	2,900	2,700	3,000	3,000	3,000
Trade	24,400	24,200	26,300	13,600	13,400	11,200	16,900	16,900	15,400
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	3,300	3,300	3,100	3,900	3,800	3,500	2,300	2,300	2,500
Services & Misc.	11,400	11,300	11,000	9,400	9,300	7,900	8,900	8,700	7,600
Government	20,100	20,100	20,300	5,800	6,100	5,200	7,100	7,100	6,900
	SAN ANGELO			SAN ANTONIO			SHERMAN-DENISON		
TOTAL	37,500	37,000	37,400	448,600	445,200	428,000	34,400	34,200	33,400
Manufacturing	5,600	5,400	5,700	50,500	50,000	47,700	11,400	11,400	10,700
Mining	800	800	1,000	3,500	3,500	3,300	200	200	200
Construction	2,300	2,200	2,500	31,300	30,900	29,700	1,300	1,300	1,300
Trans., Comm., & Util.	3,700	3,700	3,800	18,800	18,600	17,500	2,100	2,100	2,000
Trade	9,100	9,000	8,900	114,900	113,600	107,400	6,900	6,800	7,000
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,700	1,700	1,500	32,400	32,200	30,800	1,300	1,300	1,200
Services & Misc.	7,400	7,400	7,500	97,100	97,000	92,700	6,300	6,300	6,300
Government	6,900	6,800	6,500	100,100	99,400	98,900	4,900	4,800	4,700
	TEXARKANA			TYLER			WACO		
TOTAL	46,500	46,300	45,300	58,100	58,200	56,700	75,600	75,800	71,900
Manufacturing	8,500	8,600	8,400	12,100	12,000	11,700	15,600	15,700	14,800
Mining	100	100	100	2,900	3,100	3,000	--	--	--
Construction	1,800	1,800	1,900	2,400	2,400	2,500	4,000	3,900	3,400
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,000	2,000	2,000	3,000	3,000	2,800	3,200	3,200	3,200
Trade	10,900	10,800	10,400	14,600	14,600	14,400	19,100	19,100	17,800
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,700	1,700	1,600	3,100	3,200	3,100	4,600	4,600	4,500
Services & Misc.	8,500	8,400	7,900	11,800	11,800	11,400	17,500	17,500	16,700
Government	13,000	12,900	13,000	8,200	8,100	7,800	11,600	11,800	11,500
	WICHITA FALLS								
TOTAL	53,200	53,300	51,500						
Manufacturing	9,000	9,100	8,200						
Mining	3,200	3,200	3,200						
Construction	2,100	2,100	2,000						
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,800	2,800	2,800						
Trade	13,400	13,400	13,000						
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	2,500	2,500	2,600						
Services & Misc.	9,300	9,300	8,800						
Government	10,900	10,900	10,900						

1/ Estimates prepared by TEC in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.
* Preliminary -- subject to revision.
**Revised.

Construction, spurred by fair weather and strong consumer demand, registered its first advance since August 1983, despite continued high interest rates and tight financing. Employment in construction rose by 1,300 between February and March. Expansion in transportation by air fueled the over-the-month gain in transportation and public utilities, as the communication sector dropped moderately and utilities remained unchanged.

HOURS RISE, HOURLY EARNINGS DECLINE

Average weekly hours worked by a manufacturing production worker in Texas rose by 0.4 hours over the month, while average hourly earnings dropped by 2¢. The average worker in March was earning $9.03 an hour for a 41.9 hour week, and averaging $378.36 a week. Weekly earnings were boosted by the rise in hours worked, even though hourly earnings were down slightly. All of the increase in hours worked was concentrated in the durable goods sector. Average hours worked per week were up 1.5 hours over the year, and average hourly earnings had risen by 27¢. There were an estimated 658,900 manufacturing production workers in Texas at mid-March, up 4,900 from February and 16,200 above the year-ago level.

TEXAS NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY ESTIMATES 1/

INDUSTRY	Mar 1984*	Feb. 1984**	Mar. 1983**	Change From Feb. 1984	Change From Mar. 1983
±TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	6,287,000	6,262,600	6,127,000	24,400	160,000
Manufacturing	979,100	972,300	957,800	6,800	21,300
Durable Goods	563,900	557,700	550,000	6,200	13,900
Lumber & Wood Products	41,000	40,600	37,900	400	3,100
Logging Camps, Sawmills, Planing Mills	7,500	7,600	7,200	- 100	300
Furniture & Fixtures	17,900	17,800	15,800	100	2,100
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	48,000	47,800	43,900	200	4,100
Concrete, Gypsum & Plaster Products	22,700	22,200	20,300	500	2,400
Primary Metal Industries	34,800	34,300	33,600	500	1,200
Fabricated Metal Products	80,500	79,900	79,700	600	800
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	43,500	43,400	42,700	100	800
Machinery, Except Electrical	132,800	130,100	135,700	2,700	- 2,900
Oil Field Machinery	43,200	41,700	46,700	1,500	- 3,500
Electric & Electronic Equipment	100,100	99,300	97,000	800	3,100
Transportation Equipment	73,500	72,800	71,100	700	2,400
Aircraft & Parts	37,200	37,200	38,100	0	- 900
Instruments & Related Products	23,000	22,800	22,900	200	100
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	12,300	12,300	12,400	0	- 100
Nondurable Goods	415,200	414,600	407,800	600	7,400
Food & Kindred Products	95,300	96,400	92,800	- 1,100	2,500
Meat Products	24,200	24,100	24,500	100	- 300
Dairy Products	4,900	4,900	4,900	0	0
Bakery Products	12,500	12,400	10,600	100	1,900
Malt Beverages	3,300	3,300	3,300	0	0
Textile Mill Products	5,000	4,900	5,000	100	0
Apparel & Other Finished Textile Products	62,200	61,000	60,000	1,200	2,200
Paper & Allied Products	22,100	22,200	21,500	- 100	600
Printing & Publishing	70,700	70,600	68,000	100	2,700
Newspaper, Periodicals, Books & Misc. Publ	35,300	35,500	35,100	- 200	200
Chemicals & Allied Products	76,300	76,300	77,900	0	- 1,600
Petroleum & Coal Products	42,900	42,900	44,000	0	- 1,100
Petroleum Refining	39,600	39,600	40,900	0	- 1,300
Leather & Leather Products	8,300	8,300	8,900	0	- 600
Other Nondurable Goods	32,400	32,000	29,700	400	2,700
Total Nonmahufacturing	5,307,900	5,290,300	5,169,200	17,600	138,700
Mining	264,800	265,300	265,600	- 500	- 800
Oil & Gas Extraction	254,900	255,500	255,900	- 600	- 1,000
Metal & Coal & Nonmet. Mnrls., Exc. Fuel	9,900	9,800	9,700	100	200
Construction	406,400	405,100	416,800	1,300	- 10,400
Transportation & Public Utilities	377,300	376,500	366,800	800	10,500
Railroad Transportation	25,200	24,800	24,300	400	900
Transportation, Except Railroads	177,900	177,100	167,700	800	10,200
Transportation by Air	35,500	34,900	35,300	600	200
Communication, Exc. U. S. Postal Service	96,300	96,700	95,500	- 400	800
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	77,900	77,900	79,300	0	- 1,400
Electric Services	43,600	43,600	44,000	0	- 400
Gas Production & Distribution	29,000	29,000	30,200	0	- 1,200
Wholesale & Retail Trade	1,572,300	1,563,500	1,520,900	8,800	51,400
Wholesale Trade	440,500	438,600	432,100	1,900	8,400
Retail Trade	1,131,800	1,124,900	1,088,800	6,900	43,000
Building Materials & Garden Supplies	53,500	51,900	48,300	1,600	5,200
General Merchandise Stores	142,300	142,000	139,100	300	3,200
Food Stores	205,800	204,900	194,500	900	11,300
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	131,800	130,700	126,900	1,100	4,900
Apparel & Accessory Stores	76,600	76,800	76,700	- 200	- 100
Other Retail Trade	521,800	518,600	503,300	3,200	18,500
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	401,400	400,800	384,100	600	17,300
Banking	102,900	103,000	102,200	- 100	700
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	123,400	123,200	122,200	200	1,200
Other Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	175,100	174,600	159,700	500	15,400
Services	1,210,100	1,203,800	1,160,300	6,300	49,800
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	76,700	74,700	73,000	2,000	3,700
Personal Services	73,100	73,700	73,400	- 600	- 300
Business & Repair Services	320,500	317,200	301,100	3,300	19,400
Amusement, Including Motion Pictures	50,000	50,600	46,000	- 600	4,000
Health Services	343,400	342,100	336,700	1,300	6,700
Educational Services	64,800	65,000	58,300	- 200	6,500
Other Services & Miscellaneous	281,600	280,500	271,800	1,100	9,800
Total Government	1,075,600	1,075,300	1,054,700	300	20,900
Total Federal Government	180,200	179,200	173,000	1,000	7,200
Total State Government	221,700	222,000	225,500	- 300	- 3,800
Total Local Government	673,700	674,100	656,200	- 400	17,500

1/ Estimated number of nonagricultural jobs in Texas without reference to place of residence of workers. ± Estimates of TEC in cooperation with Bureau of Labor Statistics and Employment & Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor.
* Preliminary -- subject to revision. ** Revised.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/
TEXAS STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

	Mar.'84*	Feb.'84**	Mar.'83**	Mar.'84*	Feb.'84**	Mar.'83**	Mar.'84*	Feb.'84**	Mar.'83**
	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN		
Total Civilian Labor Force	77,800	76,700	76,500	100,600	98,900	96,400	343,100	336,000	321,500
Total Unemployment	3,500	3,000	4,300	4,900	4,700	5,700	11,600	9,400	15,200
Percent Unemployed	4.5	3.9	5.6	4.9	4.8	5.9	3.4	2.8	4.7
Total Employment 2/	74,300	73,700	72,200	95,700	94,200	90,700	331,500	326,600	306,300
	BEAUMONT-PT. A.-ORANGE			BROWNS.-HARL.-SAN BENITO			BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION		
Total Civilian Labor Force	179,600	175,700	182,200	93,000	90,700	91,000	56,600	56,100	54,500
Total Unemployment	21,600	19,400	26,900	13,600	12,400	14,600	2,200	2,000	2,700
Percent Unemployed	12.0	11.0	14.8	14.6	13.7	16.0	3.9	3.6	5.0
Total Employment 2/	158,000	156,300	155,300	79,400	78,300	76,400	54,400	54,100	51,800
	CORPUS CHRISTI			DALLAS-FORT WORTH 3/			EL PASO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	166,900	162,400	168,900	1,864.5	1,825.8	1,753.8	197,900	194,800	196,600
Total Unemployment	15,400	13,600	17,800	73.1	64.7	101.2	19,700	18,600	27,100
Percent Unemployed	9.2	8.4	10.5	3.9	3.5	5.8	10.0	9.5	13.8
Total Employment 2/	151,500	148,800	151,100	1,791.4	1,761.1	1,652.6	178,200	176,200	169,500
	GALVESTON-TEXAS CITY			HOUSTON 3/			KILLEEN-TEMPLE		
Total Civilian Labor Force	91,900	89,800	91,700	1,772.4	1,735.5	1,755.1	75,600	74,000	71,000
Total Unemployment	9,400	8,000	12,400	129.2	113.6	174.7	4,000	3,500	5,000
Percent Unemployed	10.2	8.9	13.5	7.3	6.5	10.0	5.3	4.7	7.0
Total Employment 2/	82,500	81,800	79,300	1,643.2	1,621.9	1,580.4	71,600	70,500	66,000
	LAREDO			LONGVIEW-MARSHALL			LUBBOCK		
Total Civilian Labor Force	40,600	38,900	43,200	79,600	78,300	79,900	114,500	112,600	112,700
Total Unemployment	8,600	7,400	12,500	7,200	6,400	9,700	7,100	6,300	6,900
Percent Unemployed	21.2	19.0	28.9	9.0	8.2	12.1	6.2	5.6	6.1
Total Employment 2/	32,000	31,500	30,700	72,400	71,900	70,200	107,400	106,300	105,800
	MCALLEN-PHARR-EDINBURG			MIDLAND			ODESSA		
Total Civilian Labor Force	122,500	117,800	118,700	70,400	69,700	63,300	74,600	73,800	72,000
Total Unemployment	30,500	27,300	23,500	3,000	2,600	3,700	4,400	3,900	6,900
Percent Unemployed	24.9	23.2	19.8	4.3	3.7	5.8	5.9	5.3	9.6
Total Employment 2/	92,000	90,500	95,200	67,400	67,100	59,600	70,200	69,900	65,100
	SAN ANGELO			SAN ANTONIO			SHERMAN-DENISON		
Total Civilian Labor Force	50,600	49,700	50,200	520,500	509,700	489,800	40,400	40,100	40,200
Total Unemployment	2,300	1,900	3,200	26,500	23,000	33,300	2,400	2,400	4,200
Percent Unemployed	4.5	3.8	6.4	5.1	4.5	6.8	5.9	6.0	10.4
Total Employment 2/	48,300	47,800	47,000	494,000	486,700	456,500	38,000	37,700	36,000
	TEXARKANA			TYLER			VICTORIA		
Total Civilian Labor Force	53,000	52,200	51,200	78,800	77,900	76,200	37,500	37,000	38,400
Total Unemployment	4,500	4,500	5,300	3,700	3,500	5,100	2,700	2,500	4,100
Percent Unemployed	8.5	8.6	10.4	4.7	4.5	6.7	7.2	6.8	10.7
Total Employment 2/	48,500	47,700	45,900	75,100	74,400	71,100	34,800	34,500	34,300
	WACO			WICHITA FALLS			STATE OF TEXAS 3/		
Total Civilian Labor Force	92,300	90,700	87,300	68,700	67,800	66,000	7,790.2	7,625.3	7,536.7
Total Unemployment	4,200	3,700	5,600	3,300	3,000	5,200	509.3	450.1	655.6
Percent Unemployed	4.6	4.1	6.4	4.8	4.4	7.9	6.5	5.9	8.7
Total Employment 2/	88,100	87,000	81,700	65,400	64,800	60,800	7,280.9	7,175.2	6,881.1

1/ All estimates shown are "actual" (not seasonally adjusted).
2/ Includes resident wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family workers and domestics in private households, agricultural workers, and workers involved in labor-management disputes.
3/In thousands.
* Preliminary -- subject to revision. ** Revised.

HOURS AND EARNINGS IN TEXAS*

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Mar.± 1984	Feb. 1984	Mar. 1983	Mar.± 1984	Feb. 1984	Mar. 1983	Mar.± 1984	Feb. 1984	Mar. 1983
FOR TEXAS									
MANUFACTURING TOTAL	$378.36	$375.58	$353.90	41.9	41.5	40.4	$ 9.03	$ 9.05	$ 8.76
Durable Goods	370.82	369.88	351.88	41.9	41.7	40.4	8.85	8.87	8.71
Lumber & Wood Products	258.93	256.14	251.69	41.1	40.4	40.4	6.30	6.34	6.23
Furniture & Fixtures	228.34	227.95	226.94	39.1	38.9	38.4	5.84	5.86	5.91
Stone, Clay, & Glass Prods.	369.73	365.64	351.11	44.6	44.0	44.5	8.29	8.31	7.89
Primary Metal Industries	403.27	393.73	408.38	40.9	40.3	37.5	9.86	9.77	10.89
Fabricated Metal Products	356.65	356.87	351.23	40.9	40.6	39.2	8.72	8.79	8.96
Machinery, Exc. Electric	378.63	379.90	347.84	42.4	42.4	40.4	8.93	8.96	8.61
Oil Field Machinery	467.39	485.44	438.24	43.6	44.7	41.5	10.72	10.86	10.56
Elec. & Electronic Equip.	382.81	385.22	344.92	41.7	41.6	40.2	9.18	9.26	8.58
Transportation Equipment	507.78	510.84	470.82	43.4	44.0	41.3	11.70	11.61	11.40
Instr. & Related Products	309.29	306.15	308.11	39.4	39.1	39.3	7.85	7.83	7.84
Misc. Mfg. Industries	275.71	272.22	274.97	39.5	39.0	40.2	6.98	6.98	6.84
Nondurable Goods	387.90	382.34	357.62	41.8	41.2	40.5	9.28	9.28	8.83
Food & Kindred Products	338.73	334.70	309.59	42.5	42.1	41.5	7.97	7.95	7.46
Meat Products	282.24	280.31	278.10	42.0	41.9	41.2	6.72	6.69	6.75
Malt Beverages	688.32	659.44	612.07	43.4	41.5	41.3	15.86	15.89	14.82
Textile Mill Products	276.64	268.46	261.84	41.6	40.8	42.3	6.65	6.58	6.19
Apprl. & Other Text. Prods.	191.69	186.47	175.06	39.2	37.9	36.7	4.89	4.92	4.77
Paper & Allied Products	419.60	416.55	400.53	43.8	43.3	43.3	9.58	9.62	9.25
Printing & Publishing	347.99	336.87	332.83	40.7	39.4	40.1	8.55	8.55	8.30
Chemicals & Allied Products	592.62	587.58	516.89	42.3	42.0	40.1	14.01	13.99	12.89
Petroleum & Coal Products	620.21	616.62	601.17	43.1	43.0	43.5	14.39	14.34	13.82
Petroleum Refining	634.00	630.81	614.22	43.1	43.0	43.5	14.71	14.67	14.12
Leather & Leather Products	210.72	213.33	200.90	37.9	38.3	40.1	5.56	5.57	5.01
Other Nondurable Goods	396.94	391.85	342.24	44.6	45.3	42.2	8.90	8.65	8.11
NONMANUFACTURING									
Mining	490.11	491.06	457.82	46.9	47.4	45.6	10.45	10.36	10.04
Oil & Gas Extraction	493.86	495.33	461.11	46.9	47.4	45.7	10.53	10.45	10.09
Met/Coal/Nonmet Mnrls, Exc Fuel	401.38	393.39	400.51	47.5	47.0	44.9	8.45	8.37	8.92
Comm., Exc. U.S. Postal Service	419.15	416.41	385.30	39.1	38.7	38.3	10.72	10.76	10.06
Elec., Gas, & San. Svcs.	425.01	438.19	403.85	40.4	41.3	41.0	10.52	10.61	9.85
Wholesale & Retail Trade	236.99	234.27	227.45	34.8	34.3	34.1	6.81	6.83	6.67
Wholesale Trade	364.21	362.18	348.33	40.2	39.8	39.9	9.06	9.10	8.73
Retail Trade	190.57	187.66	182.15	32.8	32.3	31.9	5.81	5.81	5.71
General Mdse. Stores	153.41	153.10	165.00	29.0	28.3	30.0	5.29	5.41	5.50
Banking	254.56	254.80	240.53	39.9	40.0	37.7	6.38	6.37	6.38
HOURS AND EARNINGS FOR SELECTED TEXAS STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS									
DALLAS-FORT WORTH									
Manufacturing	$369.05	$369.29	$349.46	41.7	41.4	40.4	$ 8.85	$ 8.92	$ 8.65
Durable Goods	386.32	389.67	364.61	41.9	41.9	40.2	9.22	9.30	9.07
Nondurable Goods	332.03	325.62	315.02	41.4	40.5	40.7	8.02	8.04	7.74
HOUSTON									
Manufacturing	470.13	463.36	444.80	42.7	42.2	41.3	11.01	10.98	10.77
Durable Goods	410.66	409.28	393.41	42.6	42.5	40.6	9.64	9.63	9.69
Nondurable Goods	544.42	531.70	514.31	42.8	41.8	42.4	12.72	12.72	12.13
SAN ANTONIO									
Manufacturing	276.19	273.64	277.97	41.1	40.6	41.8	6.72	6.74	6.65
Durable Goods	298.87	294.99	293.58	41.8	41.2	42.0	7.15	7.16	6.99
Nondurable Goods	251.47	250.97	262.08	40.3	39.9	41.6	6.24	6.29	6.30

*Figures for Texas and selected areas cover Production Workers in Manufacturing and Mining Industries only and Nonsupervisory Employees in other industry divisions. Earnings' averages include premium pay for overtime, holidays, and for late-shift Work. ±Preliminary -- subject to revisions upon receipt of additional reports.
SOURCE: TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

TEC ACTIVITIES

	Mar. 1984	Mar. 1983
Total Population	16,178,400	15,604,100
% UI Covered Unemployment	2.0	3.0
UI Covered Employers	296,395	290,490
Total Claims Actions	529,480	927,441
Total Initial Claims Actions	52,739	85,592
Total Cont'd. Claims Actions	476,741	841,849
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amount	$133.20	$133.34
Total Amount Paid (Net)*	$55,014,932	$101,094,692
Total Placements	42,872	37,008

*Includes amounts paid in regular State UI benefits.

TEXAS LABOR MARKET REVIEWS

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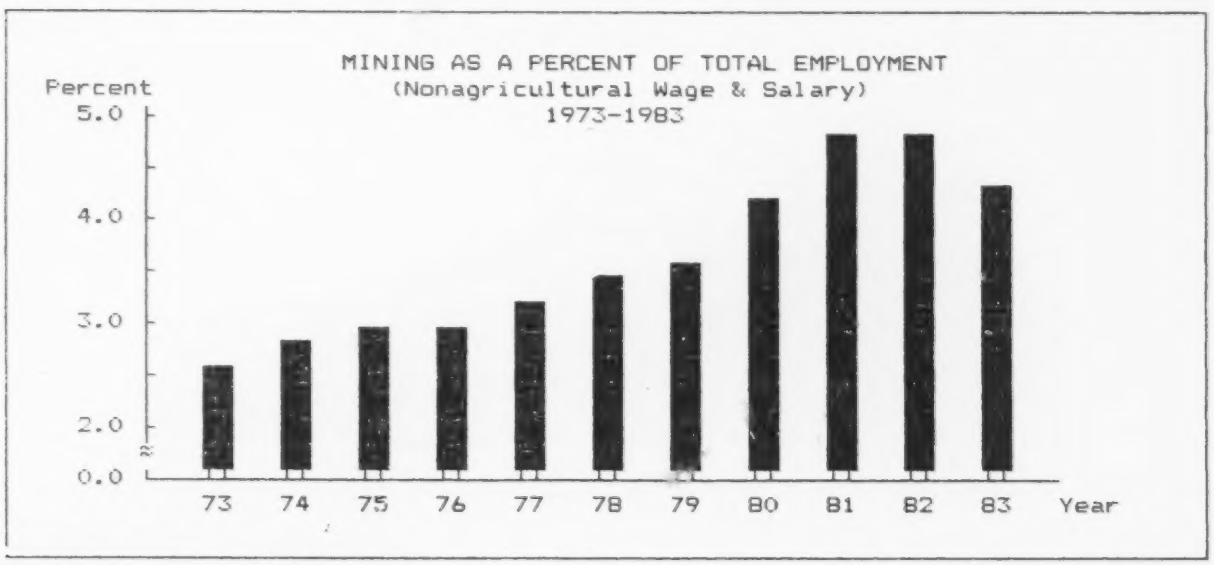

MINING EMPLOYMENT IN TEXAS

Oil and gas extraction (which comprises 95 percent of total mining in Texas) has traditionally comprised a significant portion of the State's economy and an even more significant source of revenue. Mining was a strong contributor to the expansion in Texas during the late 'Seventies and early 'Eighties. As the chart above shows, between 1973 and 1981, the proportion of the State's nonfarm jobs concentrated in mining grew from 2.5 percent to about 5 percent. While this increase sounds small, it represents 186,900 additional jobs during this period.

When the demand for domestic oil diminished in 1982, the impact on Texas was almost immediate. Employment in mining began dropping, with the loss of 47,800 jobs between January and December 1982. The low point came in September 1983, by which time another 18,300 jobs had been deleted in mining. The last quarter of 1983 showed a small rebound in mining, and this carried forward through February 1984. Although employment declined moderately in March, more growth in this sector is expected in coming months.

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